

Message Text

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13

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NSC-10 OC-06 CCO-00 PPT-02 SCA-01 RSC-01

DRC-01 L-03 NSCE-00 /039 W

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R 160420Z JAN 74

FM USLO PEKING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1251

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 0089

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR CVIS APER

SUBJ: REQUESTS FOR PRC VISAS

REF: STATE 007787

1. WE WOULD BE HAPPY TO GET OUT OF THE VISA REQUESTING BUSINESS. UNLESS PROBLEMS DEVELOP, THERE IS NO PERSONAL CONTACT WHATSOEVER WHEN WE REQUEST PRC VISAS, HENCE NO BENEFIT TO USLO IN THAT REGARD. WHEN PROBLEMS DEVELOP, ACCESS IS NOT ALWAYS IMMEDIATE OR PRODUCTIVE, SINCE DECISIONS APPARENTLY ARE TAKEN AT HIGHER LEVELS THAN INDIVIDUALS WITH WHOM WE NORMALLY DEAL.
2. AN INTERESTING FOOTNOTE TO THE KAMMAN VISA SAGA IS THE FACT THAT KAMMAN WAS NOTIFIED SUNDAY MORNING JANUARY 13 IN MOSCOW THAT REQUEST WAS APPROVED, BUT THE INFORMATION THAT THE REQUEST WAS APPROVED WAS ONLY TELEPHONED TO USLO MORNING OF JANUARY 15.
3. WE ASSUME THAT USLO WILL CONTINUE TO HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT ON THE DESIRABILITY OF ANY PARTICULAR REQUEST FOR AN OFFICIAL VISIT. WE BELIEVE THE NUMBER OF OFFICIAL VISITORS WE HAVE HAD MAY HAVE BEEN A FACTOR IN RECENT CHINESE DELAYS (WHICH IN SOME CASES BECAUSE OF TIME FACTORS BECAME A REFUSAL) IN AUTHORIZING VISAS. IT IS IMPORTANT, WE THINK, TO KEEP THE CIRCUITS
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CLEAR FOR THE NECESSARY VISITS - THE REGIONAL MEDICAL

OFFICER, REGIONAL TECHNICAL PERSONNEL, REGIONAL SECURITY SUPERVISOR, REGIONAL COMMUNICATIONS PERSONNEL AND CERTAIN OTHERS AND TO REDUCE THOSE VISITS WHICH FALL INTO THE DESIRABLE BUT NOT NECESSARY CATEGORY, AT LEAST FOR A WHILE.

4. IN DEVISING FORM LETTERS OR NOTES, DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO EMULATE CHINESE PRACTICE CONCERNING REQUESTS FOR VISAS FOR PRCLO PERSONNEL. NOTE GIVES THE BAREST DETAILS, I.E., NAME, DPOB AND PASSPORT NUMBER (DATE OF ISSUE IS NOT GIVEN) AND STATES THAT INDIVIDUALS ARE "OFFICIALS" OR "STAFF MEMBERS" OR "WIVES OF OFFICIALS" OF PRCLO AND STATES WHEN THEY WILL DEPART PEKING. THE TITLE, POSITION OR FUNCTIONS ARE NEVER GIVEN. ON OUR PART WE HAVE BEEN MORE PRECISE, PERHAPS UNNECESSARILY.

5. ONE TECHNICAL POINT WHICH CHINESE HAVE EMPHASIZED: CTS IN HONG KONG DOES NOT "ISSUE VISAS". THE FORMULA WE HAVE BEEN USING WHEN THE VISA WILL BE OBTAINED BY CTS IN HONG KONG IS A REQUEST THAT, "THE APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES BE AUTHORIZED TO ISSUE THE VISA".
BRUCE

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